

Labor Becomes Full Partner In Mobilization Bates, Birthright, Walker Named to New WSB

**Seeks Stronger Laws on
Prices, Rents and
More Equal Taxes**

Washington.—The United Labor Policy Committee voted (April 30) to send labor representatives into the government's defense agencies on a full partnership basis.

Labor, which had been frozen out of the mobilization set-up by the big business representatives in charge of the many agencies, had withdrawn all of its spokesmen in these agencies on Feb. 15 in protest against the unfair discrimination against working people.

The committee said the country had benefited by its dramatization of the one-sided mobilization set-up under Administrator Charles E. Wilson. It added:

"We do not want to give the impression that the United Labor Policy Committee is now satisfied with all defense policies or programs.

"On the contrary, further fundamental improvements are imperative. The cards are still stacked against the consumer public.

"The remedy for these wrongs lies in more vigorous price regulations and even more with Congress and labor and every other group in the nation must now undertake a new campaign for constructive action by Congress.

The immediate goals include:

1. Revision by the Wage Stabilization Board of the inflexible formula now freezing workers' earnings.
2. A stronger defense Production Act to tighten rent and price controls and state clearly that equality of sacrifice must be the underlying principle of home front defense policies.
3. Tax laws that eliminate special privileges for the rich and corporations which will treat low-income groups more equitably.
4. Creation of a Smaller War Plants Corporation.

The 10-week boycott of the defense setup brought these improvements in labor's position:

- A full partnership with management, agriculture and public on President Truman's National Advisory Board on Mobilization Policy.
- A reconstituted Wage Stabilization Board with authority to settle disputes, voted 12 to 4, by the National Advisory Board.
- A new manpower set-up of labor-management committees at top policy level and in local and regional areas.
- "Organized labor will support every move to strengthen our nation and protect the democratic institutions we cherish," the committee said. "It is senseless and wasteful to criticize and resist unjust policies and unworkable procedures."

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Al J. Hayes, president International Association of Machinists, was re-nominated for the post he held when labor withdrew from the mobilization program last Feb. 15—special assistant to Assistant Secretary of Defense Anna Rosenbush.

The AFL is to name a deputy to Price Stabilization Director Michael V. Doris and the CIO to nominate an assistant administrator for the National Production Administration.

Wage Stabilization Board members are:

APL—Vice President Harry C.

Bates, president Bricklayers; Vice President W. C. Birthright, president Barbers; Elmer E. Walker, general vice president Machinists.

CIO—Vice President Emil Rieve, president Textile Workers; John Livingston, vice president United Auto Workers; Joseph E. Byrne, president Communications Workers.

Eli Oliver was designated chief of staff consultants to labor members of the WSB.

Reestablishment of the WSB and getting it into prompt operation was the most pressing industry-labor problem. More than 800 cases had jammed up, including industry-wide contracts in meat packing, shipyards and other areas. Many of these involve questions which will require changes in wage policy.

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The United Labor Policy Committee will make appointments to the other agencies as fast as the list can be developed.

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Wilson; Hayes Returns to Defense;
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NEW WAGE BOARD CHAIRMAN—Washington.—Dr. George W. Taylor (right) takes oath as new chairman of Wage Stabilization Board from Economic Stabilization Director Eric Johnston. President Truman created new board as recommended by public, agriculture and labor members of his National Advisory Board on Mobilization Policies.

Wright Addresses Ala. Federation

Birmingham, Ala.—The basic foreign policy of the United States "must always be made in Washington and not by any military commander in the field, no matter how great and distinguished his military abilities and accomplishments," Assistant Secretary of Labor Ralph Wright told the Alabama State Federation of Labor.

Mr. Wright said that U. S. foreign policy has as its objective world peace. He said that today the world is "in a crisis of our own making," but one arising from "plans of Soviet imperialists to conquer the civilized world. Nevertheless, the nation must make every effort to avoid unnecessarily widening the conflict, he stressed.

Mr. Wright said that the nation's founders knew that "if any person or persons in our armed forces could dictate to or defy the President—who is elected by and responsible to the people—our democratic form of government would be weakened and endangered. They knew that democratic rule and military rule are not the same thing."

He also warned against efforts to cancel out recent social and economic advances of the American people. He charged that "certain special interests which have constantly and bitterly opposed the tremendous advances over the past 18 years now are licking their chops under what they hope are the prospects of destroying many of these advances under an emergency economy."

ASIA MEETING SET

Karachi, West Pakistan.—Over 50 delegates representing almost 10 million organized workers in Asia and the Far East are expected to attend the first Asian Regional Conference of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions, May 28-31. The immediate object of the conference will be the establishment of a permanent (ICFTU) regional secretariat for Asia and the Far East.

TO REPRESENT CANADA

Ottawa, Canada.—Claude Jodine, vice president Trades and Labor Congress of Canada, has been selected Canadian workers' delegate to the 34th conference of the International Labor Organization, meeting at Geneva, Switzerland, June 6, and to the 24th Congress of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions opening in Milan, Italy, on July 4.

HEADS CO-OP STORE

Arlington, Va.—Glen B. Wall, assistant director of research AFL International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, has been elected to his second term as president of America's first cooperative department store.

A 5 percent dividend on shares of common stock held in 1950 has been announced by the board of directors of the Shirlington Cooperative Department Store.

The co-op, located in the suburban district of the Nation's Capital, was founded by the late Edward A. Filene.

Tobin Blasts Reds Phony May Day

Washington.—Secretary of Labor Maurice J. Tobin in a message broadcast to the Russian people bailed the friendship of the American, British, and Russian peoples. He called on the rulers of the Soviet Union to give back to the peoples of the Soviet Union "the right of liberty and self-determination which God gave them."

The message was broadcast May Day (May 1) by Voice of America through its many channels reaching the Soviet Union.

The secretary also commented that the Communists were perverting May Day and they were thereby warning the free world "that a great nation is the captive of a willful group of aggressors who seek to destroy freedom and decency everywhere."

California Federation Attacks NAM-Administration Tax Proposals

By JOHN F. HENNING
San Francisco Correspondent AFL News Service.

San Francisco.—The California State Federation of Labor attacked the tax proposals of the National Association of Manufacturers and Secretary of Treasury John W. Snyder in the second issue of its series of economic articles entitled, "Your Economics and Mine."

"Taxing the Worker" is the subject of the current issue which points out that both NAM and administration plans would impose the greatest burden of the pay-as-you-go taxing program for national defense on the worker.

Following are excerpts from the issue:

The administration asked Congress to pass legislation which will increase the income tax revenue of the nation over \$34 billion. However, the administration ignored the highly profitable principle of sacrifice principle by favoring the wealthy and penalizing the wage earning public.

The distorted nature of the administration "sacrifice" principle is graphically shown in the table below which compares the newly proposed tax for

low and high income brackets. The table is based on the income tax payments of an employee and 3 dependents (his wife and 2 children). The statistics follow:

Makes pay	New tax	Under proposed law would	Increase
\$2,500	\$20	\$24	20%
5,000	520	624	20%
10,000	1,296	1,512	16 2/3%
25,000	6,258	7,172	14 2/3%
50,000	18,884	20,788	10 1/2%
100,000	51,212	58,316	7 5/8%
200,000	132,552	140,456	6%

The administration also proposed to pile heavier excise taxes on various commodities already laden with taxes borne by the consumer.

Mr. Truman's proposed excise tax formula is listed below. American labor has historically condemned such taxes which arbitrarily impose a financial burden on those least able to pay.

EXCISE TAX INCREASES		
	Now	Proposed
Cigarettes, pkg.	7c	10c
Ten-cent cigar	1c	1.275c
Gasoline, gal.	1.5c	3c
Still wine, qt.	15c	37.5c
Liquor, 100 proof	\$2.25	\$3.00
Radio, television sets	10%	25%
Phonographs	10%	25%
Records	10%	25%
Refrigerators	10%	25%
Low-price watches & clocks	10%	25%

With typical contempt for the economic welfare of the average working man, the National Association of Manufacturers has advised a general excise tax on virtually all commodities, thereby threatening the American consumer.

The administration should secure needed revenues by boosting corporate taxes and excise profits taxes over their present levels.

Profits for corporations in 1951 are expected to smash all past records. The almost incredible 1950 profits of General Motors totaled \$855 million. In the present atmosphere of wage and climbing prices the administration must reverse its tax philosophy and share the total confidence of the millions of men and women who comprise the work-a-public.

WICKLEN DIES

Washington.—Louis Matthews Wicklen, 59, secretary-treasurer AFL Sheet Metal Workers International Association, died April 26 at St. Mary's Hospital of a heart ailment. He had been ill since October.

Born in DuQuoin, Ill., Mr. Wicklen started his career as a sheet metal worker on the railroads in the St. Louis area and served as general chairman of the union's local in that city. He became an international representative of the union in 1917 and for 28 years was vice president in charge of railroad membership. He became secretary-treasurer in July 1948.

Mr. Wicklen helped to lay the groundwork for the Railroad Retirement Act and the amendments improving it.

He is survived by his widow, 3 sons, Blaine, Lester C. and John E. Wicklen, all of Washington, D. C.; Miss Mayme M. Wicklen, and half-brother, Charles H. Oebke, both of Chicago. Burial was made in Arlington Cemetery.

Hold on to your U. S. Savings bonds—buy more.

'erby Town' Hotel Strike South's Tops

(Special to AFL News Service)

Louisville, Ky.—The most important strike of hotel and restaurant workers ever to occur south of the Mason-Dixon Line began March 29 against the Brown and Kentucky Hotels, 2 of the main headquarters for visitors for the Kentucky Derby run annually on the first Saturday of May.

A spontaneous wage demonstration at the Brown and Kentucky Hotels brought 600 of 800 workers in the 2 houses out on strike.

Pickets marched in protest against wages almost unbelievable in 1951: 25 cents an hour for waiters and waitresses; \$2 a day for kitchen helpers; as low as \$4.60 a day for cooks working a 54-hour week.

Public opinion strongly favored the strikers. Both Louisville newspapers supported their demands editorially. The local ministerial association took steps to help bring the strikers' story to the public.

The strikers demanded union recognition and more pay, as well as elimination of substandard working conditions. Among their grievances:

Waiters and waitresses are held responsible for "walkouts." That is, if a chattering customer won't pay his tab, the waiter gets stuck for it.

One waiter had to pay for a lost key in his \$22 bi-weekly pay for a coffeepot stolen by a guest.

Workers are required to show up for "inspection" on Thursdays, whether it's their one day off in the week or not—and don't get paid for their time.

Owner J. Graham Brown has steadfastly refused:

To talk with the union representatives.

To permit the Mayor's Labor-Management Committee to investigate.

To make use of the services of the Kentucky State Council Service.

To agree to an election under impartial auspices.

The strike is being conducted by Local 181, Hotel and Restaurant Employees, Local 79, Bar and Restaurant Employees, Local 100, Firemen and Oilers, all AFL.

The entire Louisville labor movement, as well as the AFL, are backing the strike. Ed Weyler, secretary of the KRC, reports that here "this is the biggest wage demonstration in the history of the city."

Officials of the Hotel and Restaurant Employees and Bartenders International Union declare that the strike is the "most important event to occur in our industry south of the Mason-Dixon Line."

A real seal on the job of eliminating the penny pay under which hotel and restaurant workers throughout the South have suffered.

The union's International General Executive Board, meeting at San Diego at the Louisville walkout started, voted at once to give full financial backing to the strikers.

Two AFL leaders staying at the Hotel Clay Hotel were ordered by the hotel management to vacate their rooms. Freeman Bryant, Hotel and Restaurant Workers International representative, and Charles Elder, AFL state organizer, said they had no reason for the order to leave.

Eliminating proposals had been submitted previously for hotel and restaurant workers.

The Circuit Court has recognized

Gift to Hospital Honors Dick Walsh

New York.—The sum of \$50,000 was donated to the Will Rogers Memorial Hospital, Saratoga Lake, N. Y., in honor of President Richard M. Nixon of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees.

The gift was announced at a dinner given by Walsh by the General Sales Managers' Committee in appreciation of his labor leadership and untiring efforts on behalf of the entertainment plan.

Tributes were paid to Mr. Walsh by Spyros P. Skouras, president 20th Century-Fox Film Corp.; Barney Balaban, president Paramount Pictures; Jack Cohn, executive vice president Columbia Pictures; and Si Fahn, president Fabian Theaters and treasurer of the hospital.

Al Montague, executive chairman for the hospital, said that "The Will Rogers Memorial Hospital is a New York hospital, but an industry institution serving all from any part of the United States."

Patients served by the hospital had from 39 different states of the union.

the 3 striking unions—Hotel and Restaurant Employees, Local 181, Firemen and Oilers 220 and Bartenders 79—as representing employees of the Brown and Kentucky Hotels. However, while Kentucky law gives the worker the right to organize and bargain collectively, it does not force the employer to recognize or meet with the union. Walsh said he will visit his hotels rather than deal with the unions.

NEED 7,200,000

Washington.—Secretary of Labor Maurice J. Tobin set the Nation's manpower goal at an additional 7,200,000 men and women for defense industry and the armed forces for the 2-year period ending in the fourth quarter of 1952.

More than 3,000,000 of these, men and women, the secretary said, will have to be recruited from outside the labor force. The rest are already on the job in nondefense activities or are seeking work.

Secretary Tobin said that the 1952 goal of 7,200,000 could be reached through a normal growth in the labor force of 1,800,000; through an additional defense-stimulated growth of 1,400,000; through a reduction of 600,000 in the number of unemployed; and through a shift of 3,100,000 workers from non-defense to defense activities.



Photo Louisville (KRC) 26. Those NOT ASKING SALADS.—Louisville, Ky.—Mrs. Octavia Sewell, 45, who went on strike with other members of Local 181 AFL Hotel and Restaurant Employees against Brown and Kentucky hotels, explained that "we're not asking for salads—we're not eating salads—we're just asking for a decent wage, and 25 cents an hour ain't decent."

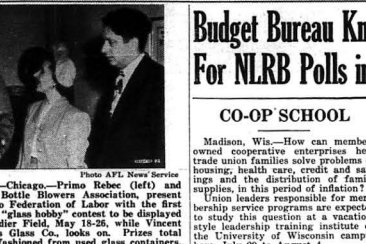


Photo AFL News Service

FIRST UNION SHOW EXHIBIT.—Chicago.—Primo Rebeck (left) and Elsie Pace, secretary of AFL Glass Bottle Blowers Association, present President William A. Lee of Chicago Federation of Labor with the first "glass" labor contract to be displayed at AFL Union Show, Soldier Field, May 18-26, while Vincent Schillaci (far right), Owens Illinois Glass Co., looks on. Prizes total \$1,000 for best examples of articles fashioned from used glass containers.

Entries in Bottle Blowers Contest To Be Exhibited at AFL Union Show

By DAN SMYTH
Chicago Correspondent AFL News Service

Chicago.—The first item for exhibition in the great 1951 Union Industries show in Chicago was brought to William A. Lee, president of the Chicago Federation of Labor by 3 employees of the Owens-Illinois Glass Co. plant in Chicago Heights.

It is a used quart bottle with a square-ripped side inside it, pulled by a harbor tug across a river, with smaller sailing vessel riding beside it. It was brought to the show by offices by Primo Rebeck, president of Local 108, AFL Glass Bottle Blowers Association; Elsie Pace, financial secretary, and Vincent Schillaci, the factory's personnel director.

It is one of hundreds of entries already submitted in a national contest being conducted by the Bottle Blowers. The union is awarding \$10,000 in bonds as prizes for the best exhibit fashioned from a used glass bottle or jar.

The contest will be held until after Oct. 1, when the date for submission of entries to the Glass Bottle Blowers Association is Oct. 13, Broadway, New York 10, N. Y. But selected entries of the contest will be on display at the big show in Soldier Field, Chicago, from May 18 to May 26.

Eight booths at the show will be occupied by the Bottle Blowers. One of the features will be a Kaiser "Henry J" automobile, which was given away free to some of the strikers.

The Bottle Blowers plan to give away hundreds of additional prizes in an electrically-operated "spin-the-bottle" game.

TO SPEED DRIVE

San Diego, Calif.—General executive board of the AFL Hotel and Restaurant Employees and Bartenders International Union announced that the \$300,000 campaign to endow a hospital wing at the City of Hope has passed the one-third mark. President Hugh Ernst and General Secretary Ed Miller said that the board planned to accelerate the drive for the famed national medical center, which projected 34-bed hospital wing will soon be able to open.

Urge Schools Teach Labor Relations

Champaign-Urbana, Ill.—High school students can be made more aware of the problems of the everyday world through a study of labor relations among the six most important labor unions in the world.

Dr. Phillips Bradley in a University of Illinois Bulletin, "Labor-Management Relations in the Curriculum and the Classroom," says it is necessary to educate students to the important labor and management problems surrounding the labor movement.

Nearly every high school student will eventually become either an employer or a worker.

2. Labor-management relations today will lead to better labor-management problems of the day.

3. Proper education on the issues between labor and management relations in the years ahead.

The Bulletin, issued by the University's Institute of Labor and Industrial Relations, is a reprint of two articles which originally appeared in Social Education, official journal of the National Council for the Social Studies.

Budget Bureau Knocks Out Funds For NLRB Polls in Building Trades

CO-OP SCHOOL

Madison, Wis.—How can member-owned cooperative enterprises help trade union families solve problems of housing, health care, credit and savings, in this period of inflation?

Union leaders responsible for family service programs are expected to study this question at a vacation-style leadership training institute of the University of Wisconsin campus, July 2 to August 1.

In charge of the week-long program will be Jack McLanahan, assisted by a group of labor and co-op specialists. Cost for all accommodations as well as tuition totals \$55 a person. Registration agency in Rochdale Institute, the national training school for the consumer cooperative at 343 S. Dearborn St., Chicago 4, Ill.

Green Opposes Bill To Import Labor

Washington.—AFL President William Green urged the Senate to reject S. 904—a bill providing for recruitment and importation of Mexican workers for agricultural work. He said it "does not protect the interests of domestic farm labor and it is contrary to the fundamental recommendations of the President's Committee on the Foreign Labor Problem, 1946, 1951."

He was the first AFL blow against the migrant labor scandal since the report of the President's commission. The commission urged more effective use of the domestic labor force and said it is not necessary to import aliens even during the present emergency. It backed up every contention there is a genuine need for agricultural labor in the National Farm Labor Union on the scandal of "wet" labor.

Mr. Green said, in part: "The AFL firmly believes that the need for the importation of foreign labor is over-emphasized. At the present time, there are approximately 150,000 agricultural workers in Puerto Rico unemployed, and there are 100,000 partially employed—working less than 30 hours per week. However, if there is a genuine need for agricultural labor, the Puerto Rican and domestic labor market should be fully utilized before importing foreign labor."

He strongly urged that S. 904 in its present form be recommended back to committee, with instructions to provide for the recruitment of American workers before they are asked to work under decent working conditions and adequate wages, before any attempt is made to bring in foreign farm labor.

AMA, Rumely Top Spenders Among Lobbying Groups

Washington.—The American Medical Association reported it spent \$1,225,078 in 1950 in trying to obtain passage of legislation providing decent medical care for the American people.

This was the highest amount spent by any group to influence Congress. Second in the list was the National Association for Constitutional Government, which reported \$921,649 expenditures. Its executive secretary, Dr. Edward A. Rumely, was convicted of contempt of Congress in 1948 for refusing to file the House Committee investigating Lobbying Activities and the recalcitrant House business purchasers of anti-labor publications. He faces a jail sentence and fines.

In 1950 outright business groups spent the most for lobbying, as they did in 1949. To their total of \$541,084 should be added the \$44,160 spent by "tax" groups which are substantially business-supported. Careful study of the figures shows that of the \$1,799,803 spent by all organizations, 74 per cent was for the National Association for Constitutional Government came from big business and their companies.

Professional groups, including the AMA, spent \$1,696,836. Thirteen farm groups, including the Farm Bureau, spent \$1,212,214. Thirty-four foreign policy groups spent \$744,000.

Twenty-nine labor groups spent \$144,000. The National Labor Union spent \$389,274. Seven veteran groups spent \$188,421.

Chicago.—The AFL Building Trades Department Executive Council meeting here May 9, will study the problems created by the National Labor Relations Board decision to hold bargaining elections in the building trades at the first time in history.

"The question of what action other national and international unions affirmatively will take in view of the board's action, remains to be decided," the department Bulletin said.

The department's executive council will meet here in May 9, 1951, to discuss the board's action on the executive council meeting opening May 14.

NLRB ordered bargaining and union elections in the building trades on petition of the Plumbers, Operating Engineers, Boilermakers, N. Y., on April 2.

Objections to the procedure were made by the Iron Workers, Hot Carriers, Bricklayers, Sheet Metal Workers, Operating Engineers, Boilermakers and Teamsters.

The intervening unions contended that the elections would destabilize the building construction industry, impair the operation of the National Joint Board for the Settlement of Jurisdictional Disputes, and lead to a flood of election petitions from all building trades unions which would swamp the NLRB.

The board said that if the flood of petitions should result in the board adding additional cases because Congress has not yet passed the Taft-Hartley law to conduct the elections.

The Building and Construction Trades Bulletin points out that the budget bill has provided for appropriations for NLRB for 1951 the sum of almost \$15 million earmarked for conducting elections in the building industry.

"This striking example of what the board's action in ordering these elections would mean to the taxpayers of the country," the Bulletin said.

NLRB had asked \$10,130,000 for fiscal 1951, the Budget Bureau cut the sum to \$11,000,000. The National Labor Relations Committee recommended \$13,300,000.

BEGIN RADIO PROGRAM

Montevideo, Uruguay.—Under the auspices of the Inter-American Regional Organization of the International Labor Office (ILO) and the Inter-American Labor Office (IOLAO), a bi-weekly radio program will be broadcast in Montevideo, April 12, 1951, in Spanish, "El Expectador," CEA-19, short-wave program, 11.65 MHz, 1000 watts, 5 kw. The program, mainly in Spanish, will include news items, comments, will be broadcast on Mondays and Thursdays, from 7:45 to 8 p.m., Uruguayan time.

Truman Asks Tighter Controls Over Prices, Rents, Credit

Washington.—President Truman submitted long-deferred proposals for new Defense Production Act which would tighten federal controls over prices, rents and credit.

The present act, almost completely unsatisfactory to working people, will expire June 30. The United Labor Policy Committee called for a new law which will really control prices and rents and provide an equitable wage stabilization program.

Mr. Truman recommended:

1. Extension of the Defense Production Act until June 30, 1953.

2. That the government be authorized "to build and operate defense plants, where necessary, to produce essential materials and equipment."

3. Permission to use "differential subsidies to obtain essential production from high-cost sources of supply without increasing price ceilings."

4. Provision for controls over credit on existing housing, "and regulation of speculative trading on commodity exchanges."

5. Freeing the parity price for each farm commodity as at the beginning of its marketing season to be used for price control purposes through the marketing season.

6. Stronger measures to enforce price control regulations.

7. Authority for more effective control over both residential and commercial rents wherever needed to stabilize the cost of living and the cost of doing business."

8. President said that "most important of all, we must increase taxes quickly and adequately—paying for government expenditures as we go, through a fair tax program."

In addition to taxes, he listed these

points as needed for "an anti-inflation program that will work."

1. "We must increase personal savings—dollars saved now are subtracted from the buying power pushing up prices on rents and commodities later when more consumer goods will be produced."

2. "We must reduce borrowing and buying on credit for nondefense purposes—delaying since March 16 a tax on borrowed money adds to the pressure on prices."

3. "We must have fair ceilings on prices, including the prices of farm products, and on rents. In order to stabilize the cost of living during the defense period, to hold down the cost of the defense program to the taxpayers and to prevent profiteering."

4. "We must stabilize wages and salaries at fair levels, to restrain excessive consumer demand and to prevent rising business costs from forcing price increases."

Mr. Truman said the present rent control law, which expires June 30 "is entirely inadequate to meet the inflationary pressure which will confront us in the coming months."

He said the reopening of military camps and other installations has brought "great pressures" on housing accommodations, such as, houses, in some cases "a shocking increase in rents."

In some communities where rents have been 100 percent.

"The government should have the power to establish rent controls in any community where they are needed to stabilize the situation, stop profiteering, and hold down living costs."

Rail Workers Win 6-Cent Raise Piercing 10 Percent Ceiling



Photo: AFL News Service

GIFT FROM GREECE—Washington.—Timothy Geo. Delaney, 3, director of the railroad workers' union of Greece, presented to him through his father, AFL International Representative George F. Delaney, by the Greek Federation of Labor in appreciation of Mr. Delaney's visit to Greece in behalf of the American Federation of Labor. The gift consisted of a special panel consisting of Dr. William M. Leferson, Dr. Lloyd K. Garrison and Frank Swacker.

The panel held that such action should be taken to prevent the development of inequities between these workers and the seamen and yardmasters, who had signed an escalator clause last October and to avoid abrogation of the entire integrated contract.

The panel said approval was necessary because existing regulations of the Wage Stabilization Board are ill-adapted to deal equitably with the principal problem of collective bargaining in the railroad industry.

The present strict policy was adopted last Feb. 15 by public and industry members of the old Wage Stabilization Board over objections of labor members. The action forced board members of the board, and with other discriminations by Defense Mobilization Administration, Charles E. Wilson, forced labor entirely out of the mobilization set-up.

President Truman ordered establishment of a new board with power to settle disputes to try and work out an equitable program.

Meanwhile packinghouse, textile, shipyard, utility, and other workers wait for an overhauling of wage policy generally for approval of the workers which they have negotiated with their employers.

ASK BREAK FOR FPS—Washington.—Congress has been asked to extend for 6 months the time for the Federal Protective Service to 40,000 refugees eligible for admission to the United States who will otherwise be denied entrance because of the present June 30 deadline.

BUFFALO LABEL WEEK—Buffalo, N. Y.—The week of May 7 was designated Union Label Week here in honor of the 24th annual convention of the New York State Union Label Trades Department of the AFL.

Washington.—In a precedent-setting decision, Economic Stabilization Director Eric Johnston approved a 6-cent an hour cost-of-living wage increase for 1,000,000 members of the railroad workers. The increase pierces the 10 percent ceiling on general raises imposed by the old Wage Stabilization Board last Feb. 15.

The workers are represented by the AFL Railroad Brotherhoods.

Mr. Johnston's order placed the unjustifiable ceiling these ways:

1. It was 3 1/2 cents an hour above the amount allowable under the contract. Limiting general pay boosts to 10 percent above the January 1950 level.

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Washington.—Hope for good defense housing legislation has gone out the window.

So reports the AFL Building and Construction Trades Bulletin, edited by Richard J. Gray, department president of the AFL of the AFL Building Committee.

"The House on April 9 adopted a stripped-down version of the Administration Bill," the Bulletin said.

"While it seems probable that the House will now adopt the Senate version, it is highly improbable that the bill will be improved in the House."

"This proposed bill will not supply decent housing for defense workers at rents they can afford to pay."

"Defense workers continue to live in shacks and slums and many more workers for shockingly inadequate housing."

The Senate bill provides for only \$1,600,000 for government-insured private mortgages for housing in defense areas and for federal construction of new housing. It provides for only \$50 million, limited to isolated defense areas where private industry after having been given 90 days in which to offer bids, fails to do so.

AFL President Vincent P. Carosso protested that the bill's provisions were too meager to meet defense housing needs.

EARNINGS UP—Washington.—In March, gross weekly earnings of the nation's manufacturing plants averaged \$64.36, up from \$62.36 in February, a month and nearly \$8 more than a year ago.

Meat Packers Strike Against U.S. Rules

New York.—The big meat packers are on strike again against their supplies and the people of the United States.

They don't like and won't abide by the Office of Price Stabilization regulations for slaughtering. Their action is timed with President Truman's request to Congress for more price controls for 2 years' duration in what appears to be an attempt to forestall such a move.

The same tactics contributed much to the wreckage of effective price controls in the 1946 fight led by Sen. Robert A. Taft.

Beef was reported generally in short supply across the nation. Available supplies are offered at prices beyond the reach of workmen's means.

So the miners and workers in the heavy industries will be denied the most they need to provide the strength for the most efficient day of their normal life. Operations have been curtailed at other plants, too.

"Only the small independent slaughterers, who have worked out a price ceiling for the big business, do not have hide nor hair of, are doing normal business."

Industry spokesmen tried to shift the blame to the Office of Price Stabilization—delaying since March 16 a tailored order to go with OPS.

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Leheny Predicts

1951 Union Show

Biggest Ever Held

Chicago.—The 1951 AFL Union Information Show will be the biggest one ever staged.

Director Ray F. Leheny, secretary-treasurer AFL Union Label Trades Department, made the prediction in reporting that 90 percent of the exhibit space for the big show is sold.

The show will open May 18 and run through May 28 at Soldier Field.

"The great outdoor arena will be the center of some of the nation's leading attractions, with the exhibit halls around it will be filled to capacity with displays of all unions' union."

Mr. Leheny said:

"The entire mile of booths in the extensive exhibiting and machine floor exhibit halls will be action-packed with union craftsmen actually making union-made products, or demonstrating the efficiency of union services."

CO-OPS HELP UNIONS

Chicago.—Cooperatives can help the small wage earner and his family in several ways to combat high prices and low quality which hurt our economy today, says Jerry Voorhis, co-chairman of the National Cooperative Union. He revealed that more than 10 million U. S. families now belong to one or more cooperatives.



PARIS EDITORS VISIT AFL.—Washington.—AFL Vice President George M. Harrison, president of the Brotherhood of Railway Clerks, told group of important Paris newspaper editors that U. S. is proud of French recovery under Economic Cooperation Administration. Standing in front of painting of AFL President William Green are: Front row (l. to r.), Harry Smalley, editor Combat and vice president of French Association; Louis Gagne, press attaché French Ministry of Information; Vice President Harrison; Daniel Benadite, editor France-Tribune; and vice president Paris Press Association; Louis Gabriel-Robinet, editor Le Progrès. Standing back row (l. to r.), Miss Daneker Schelskovich, interpreter; Harry E. Lennon, ECA technical assistant; Pierre Corval, editor L'Aube; AFL Economist Boris Shaskin, former director labor information ECA Paris; Robert Verrier, political editor Le Populaire; Jean Claude Serran-Schreiber, assistant general manager Les Echos.

Labor Pledges Continuing Fight For Better Mobilization Policy

Washington.—The United Labor Policy Committee is continuing its fight to correct serious shortcomings in over-all mobilization policy. The committee voted to send labor representatives back into the revised set-up. Following the text of the committee statement:

The United Labor Policy Committee voted unanimously for the immediate return of labor representatives to all defense agencies.

In the 2 months since labor representatives withdrew from defense posts, a significant change of attitude has taken place in Washington. Considerable progress has been made in correcting unjust and unwelcome procedures, but much remains to be done.

We anticipate that substantive progress can be made through the co-operative efforts of labor, management and farm representatives within the mobilization agencies.

The defense mobilization program, the 15 million American workers we represent, and the American people as a whole will benefit from the policy changes which have resulted from the protest by labor against big business domination of defense agencies.

We do not want to give the impression that the United Labor Policy Committee is now satisfied with all defense policy problems. On the contrary, further fundamental improvements are imperative. The cards are still stacked against the working public. The remedy for these wrongs lies in more vigorous press regulations and even more vigorous actions. Labor and every other group in the nation must now give impetus to a new campaign for constructive action by Congress.

Here, in summary, are the major changes made in the past few weeks that will help to strengthen the mobilization program:

PARTICIPATION

The appointment by President Truman of the National Advisory Board on Mobilization Policy has made it possible for labor to participate in general public, labor and agricultural business—as well as to participate in defense policy making at the top level, and to bring to the responsible government officials the viewpoint, heretofore completely lacking.

The creation of the National Advisory Board on Mobilization Policy, reporting directly to the Chief Executive, does not, of itself, solve all the complex problems developing from the nation's mobilization program against the challenge of Soviet imperialism and communist aggression.

We do believe, however, that operation of that top-level board has made possible a more effective voice for agriculture and the public throughout the defense program. Other agencies, notably the production and manpower

agencies and the Office of Price Stabilization, are now seeking effective labor representation to assist in the administration of these programs. The representatives of the United Labor Policy Committee, acting in the national interest now for the past, will continue their fight for fair play for the rights of workers in all positions within the various defense agencies.

WAGE STABILIZATION BOARD

The United Labor Policy Committee accepts the reconstitution of the Wage Stabilization Board, with 15 members and with new power to handle all disputes which substantially affect defense production.

We believe the new Wage Stabilization Board can establish policies that will be just to working people, while at the same time providing the degree of economic stabilization essential to the mobilization effort.

The United Labor Policy Committee is convinced that no conflict exists between the legitimate needs and aspirations of workers and the overwhelming desire of the general consuming public to have a steady, relentless rise in the cost of living.

We are confident that when the new Wage Stabilization Board begins to operate, it will promptly take affirmative action on the recommendations of the Economic Stabilization Administrator for specific revision of the original policy and will give form to it in that way handling, inequities and unfairness which have threatened the stability of collective bargaining agreements be maintained.

It will behoove the members of the Wage Stabilization Board to adopt policies which will give the defense program and the enjoyment of a fair share of America's tremendous economic wealth and productivity.

MANPOWER

We are gratified to report the recommendation by Congress to the Office of Defense Mobilization and the Department of Labor on the handling of manpower problems.

Under this agreement, a labor-management committee, operating under the power will be established, with representatives of the ODM and the Department of Labor, to act as co-chairmen. This committee will operate at the national level and will deal with broad policy.

It is our belief that this new committee will be able to offer effective recommendations for a democratic manpower program.

In addition, we are glad to report that area and regional labor-management committees, operating under the Department of Labor, will be formed to deal with specific manpower problems at the local and regional level. This is the practical and realistic way of solving local manpower problems.

Creation of this new manpower set-up is a victory of major proportions for our traditional American concept of voluntary cooperative action.

DEFENSE PRODUCTION ACT

The course of future defense policy depends upon Congress. In fact, the entire defense stabilization program will expire on June 30 unless Congress extends the Defense Production Act. President Truman has submitted recommendations to Congress for the extension and strengthening of the Defense Production Act.

We endorse the President's appeal to Congress to broaden and tighten rent controls as part of the stabilization program.

But there are still serious shortcomings in over-all mobilization policies. We are convinced that no program can be adequate unless it fully recognizes the need for stronger price controls without which the defense program will continue its alarming upward rise.

We are determined to fight and keep fighting for the elimination of special privilege from our tax laws, and for more equitable treatment of business and industry.

We feel that the interests of small business are still being neglected in the defense program and that a program of small business development should be created to insure that big business does not seize a monopolistic position. It is our belief that the program we should enact the useful facilities and the steps for the defense production.

Above all, we call upon Congress with our power to write into the new Defense Production Act a clear policy that equality of sacrifice must be the underlying principle of home-front production.

CONCLUSION

Improvement in the programs of the defense agencies and resolute determination by Congress to meet its responsibility to speed defense production are the two major problems. Equity to the tax program, will go far to strengthen our American campaign for peace.

Organized labor will support every move to strengthen our nation and our government. We will support the policies of the ODM and the Department of Labor, and we will support the policies of the labor and the public.

The progress already made, and the progress yet to be made, in the future must bring, reaffirm once again the principles of the mobilization program for our democratic institutions. In our ability constantly to adjust government policies to the needs of the plain people lie the strength and power of our democratic institutions.

It is our best insurance of victory over the reactionary ideas as well as the military weapons of the communist totalitarianism.

2 of 5 Child Farm Workers Illegal

Albany, N. Y.—Among farm workers, 2 of 5 years of age, the State Department of Labor found 88 per cent illegally employed at the time of the 1950 inspections. This means 2 out of 5 such child laborers were illegally employed.

State Industrial Commissioner Edward Corl said this was a decrease of 10 per cent from the 98 per cent in 1949 when the number of illegally employed was 100 per cent on New York farms.

Only 11 employees "held to be farm workers" in 1950 compared to 1949 when 111 were prosecuted in 1950. Nine were convicted and 2 cases are pending at the end of 1950. In 1949 only one violator was prosecuted.

Under the state's law, child labor of 14 and 15 must obtain a farmwork permit based on a physical examination and before engaging in summer farm work. Children under 14 are not permitted to work on farms except in the case of children of 15 years and upward who may work on their home farms.

In 1950 the Labor Department issued orders to the State Division of Relations, Women in Industry and Minimum Wage, checked on 918 farms and before engaging in summer farm work. Farms employed a total of 24,609 children under 16. Of these children, 1,469 were 14 and 15 years old with the remainder under 14. Of the 1,469, 869 in the same age groups had no permits, and 537 were under 14.



Photo ECA, 800 Conn. Ave., Wash., D. C.
WHITE COLLAR LEADERS OFFICE EMPLOYEES INTERNATIONAL UNION (left), confers with President Arnold S. Zander, AFL State, County and Municipal Workers, during sessions called by International Federation of Free Trade Unions to establish secretariat of world's white collar workers.

Parley Stresses Each Union Member Holds Stake in World Developments

By DAN SMYTH
Chicago Correspondent AFL News Service

Chicago.—In Europe, Asia, Africa and Latin America the people have experienced a "revolution of rising expectations," Paul R. Porter, assistant ECA administrator, told a Workers' Education Conference.

Mr. Porter was the principal speaker at the gathering sponsored by the American Labor Education Council to discuss means of making internal affairs "come alive" for local union members.

Throughout the world, Porter said, people are well aware that poverty can be overcome, disease wiped out, illiteracy erased, standards of living raised and greater economic opportunity achieved for them and their families.

"The people will insist that these rising expectations be fulfilled if they are already demanding that their governments, their peoples, their landowners fulfill these expectations."

Paul R. Porter, if America lets them fall—there is no question but that the people will turn to Russia for leadership, to the false promises of communism which are now, as always, so ready to exploit man's "rising expectations."

America, with its high living standards, high wages, cars, refrigerators, good schools, homes and radios, has the responsibility of showing the nations of the Turkish peasant, the hungry Asiatic child and the illiterate South American.

So, now it is America's responsibility to help fulfill the rising expectations, partly out of enlightened self-interest, to keep the countries of the free world oriented toward us and away from communism.

"This is the immediate and compelling reason to use economic development as an aggressive instrument of our foreign policy," said Mr. Porter.

He credited Marshall Plan aid to Europe for the "most courageous comeback in history." In 3 years, instead of the expected 4, European rehabilitation has been virtually completed.

"Free Europe's total industrial production is now 85 per cent of 1938."

duction is now 40 percent above 1938," he said. "Eliminating Germany, it is 50 percent above 1938. Agricultural production is 9 percent, power production 100 percent, steel production 25 percent."

"The most significant part of the recovery has been intangible, the strengthening of Europe's will to morale against the threat of Soviet slavery. Everywhere, the tide of communism has been turned back."

To continue our leadership, America must help Europe to re-organize, said, and labor's cooperation will be needed. He paid tribute to the active participation of labor in the ECA program, naming individual labor leaders who have served.

Johnston Okays Federal Pay Rise

Washington.—Federal employees can have a pay raise, wage stabilization officials ruled.

The rulings cleared the way for a pay raise for federal employees. The pay raise will be 2.5 percent, which is the same as the pay raise for federal employees.

The Government Employees Council, representing 24 AFL unions, forced the showdown with a telegram to Economic Stabilization Administrator Eric Johnston. The wire asserted that congressional action on pay raises for federal workers was being delayed because of uncertainty over whether U. S. workers came under wage stabilization. The unions asked whether federal workers were exempt, like state, county and municipal workers.

Mr. Johnston and the Wage Stabilization Board ducked the question. However, they said that they had no objections to a raise for federal employees "within the framework of the national wage stabilization program."

This program now limits increases to 1 percent above the January 1950 level.

Scriptis Is a 'Kefauver For U. S. Journalism'

Washington.—A light as pitiless and revealing as a Kefauver Crime Committee hearing on television is turned on American newspapers by a new book, "Damned Old Crank," a self-portrait of E. W. Scripps, publisher of the nation's largest newspaper, owned by Scripps, published by Charles R. McCabe, is published by Harcourt & Brace New York, for \$3.50.

In the glare of Scripps' brilliance not a single star of American newspaper measures up to the high standards of service and public trust he set for U. S. journalism.

Scripps' lack of all are his own financially successful newspapers, which Editor McCabe observes in his foreword, are now "the only newspapers for whom their money does not count."

"One of the editor's rules for his editors," "always serve the interest of the poor and the working class."

"Keep the capitalist justly defended, but what he has done for the activity enforced upon him makes him a better citizen and more considerate neighbor and employer," Mr. Scripps writes. "Capitalists restire secure behind the fortification of their wealth, obsolete, or modern, corruptly arrogant have become, vicious, arrogant and harmful allies to the workers of the community."

"I will concede," he wrote, "that the

usual criticism of the press is a just one, that the press is plutocratic, and that it is unfair in its dealings with the public, that it shows partiality in its dealings with the wealthy, and that it is a source of annoyance to the rights and welfare of the masses."

Editor McCabe's incisive introductory note and his selection and arrangement of the material from Scripps personal papers make this one of the most interesting biographies of the year.

Ruben Levin in "Labor" calls it "extraordinary." This reviewer's copy is a copy of the original. John Herling, editor of the "Herald," says it is "a good idea to give you a glow."

It might be a good idea for local unions to see that the editor and publisher of their local general newspaper copy this. Roy W. Howard, the man who made the Scripps-Howard newspapers what John Herling—so far from Scripps' ideals, Editor McCabe remarks, that some people think the founder ought to be called "Whirling Ed."

CANADA MEETING

Halifax, Nova Scotia.—The 1951 convention of the Trades Union Congress of Canada will open here Sept. 10.

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"Were it not for the labor press, the labor movement would not be today, and any man who tries to injure a labor paper is a traitor to the cause."

SAMUEL GOMPERS
President of the American Federation of Labor